

## ***FISH and WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET***

**Meeting Date:** February 15, 2018

**Agenda Item:** Wolf Hunting Season, Quotas and Landowner Take Under Senate Bill 200 Quotas

**Division:** Wildlife

**Action Needed:** Final

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 15 Min

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### **Background**

Season structures and hunting district boundaries are adopted biennially for most game species. This happens every other year between December and final adoptions in February. **Changes from the December meeting are highlighted.**

There are no proposed changes to wolf regulations or SB 200 Quotas. Senate Bill 200 allows landowners to take wolves that are a potential threat to human safety, livestock or domestic dogs. The Commission annually approves a quota for SB 200 take, which last year was up to 100 in separate Commission-approved intervals of 25. Typically, few wolves are taken under SB 200 with 6 in 2014, 12 in 2015, 8 in 2016 and 6 in 2017. FWP proposes no change to the SB 200 quotas.

Except for calendar rotation, all other elements of the 2017 regulations are to remain unchanged. All these changes are referenced in the Commission Master List and justifications are found in the Commission Packet.

### **Public Involvement Process & Results**

Comments were received during the Aug. 20 – Sept. 21 public scoping. Wolf comments varied from anti-wolf to pro-wolf. Public comment on proposed season structure changes ran from Dec. 7 to Jan. 24. We received 263 comments, most speaking to wanting no hunting near national parks, or staying with the current quotas. Many spoke to the role wolves could play in CWD management. All comments are included in the Commission packet.

### **Alternatives and Analysis**

Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions or no change from 2017 (status quo).

### **Agency Recommendation & Rationale**

FWP recommends the Commission adopt the 2018 and 2019 Wolf Hunting Seasons and Quotas and the SB 200 Quota as presented by FWP, and that all other aspects of these seasons remain unchanged unless addressed in another proposal.

### **Proposed Motion**

I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt the 2018 and 2019 Wolf Hunting Seasons and Quotas and the SB 200 Quota as presented by FWP, and that all other aspects of this season remain unchanged unless addressed in another proposal.